

South Coastal Region

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- Regional Coordinator

Physical Description of Region

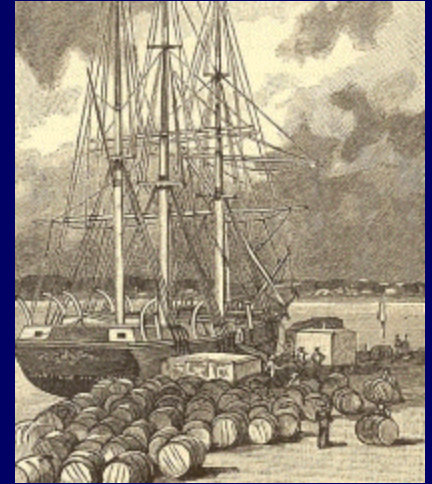


- Wareham to Seekonk
- Two major waterbodies Buzzards Bay & Mt Hope Bay
- Two major cities both with industrial ports
- Major shipping lane
- National Estuary Program designations
- Extensive natural resources
- Endangered species



Historic/Cultural Uses and Activities

- Ferry service to New York City and other New England locations
- Electricity generating center for New England
- Textile manufacturing centers
- Center of the world's whaling industry
- Fishing and fish processing
- Cape Cod Canal made Buzzards Bay a major shipping lane
- Hurricane barrier made a port of safe haven
- Tourism and recreation



Mt Hope Bay Existing Uses



- Designated Port Area
- Second deepest port in Commonwealth
- State Pier
- Two large electricity generating stations
- Large ferry building operation
- Old petroleum storage facility
- Significant shipping in bay to serve state pier, power stations, and industry

Buzzards Bay Existing Uses



- World renowned sailing
>13,000 recreational boats
- Significant commercial shellfishery
- Extensive recreational fishery
- Major shipping lane
- Significant port at New Bedford
- Dredge material disposal
- Vacation and recreation center



New Bedford Harbor Existing Uses



- Designated Port Area
- Most valuable fishing port in US
- Major fish processing center
- State Pier
- Extensive large boat repair facilities
- Ferry operations



Interrelationship Between Uses

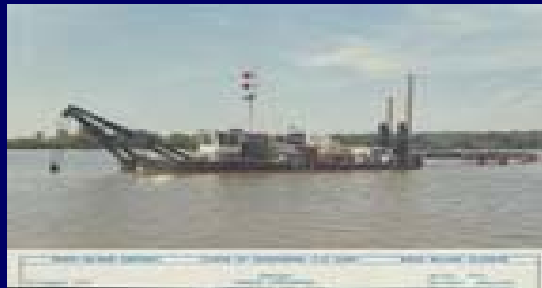
- Petroleum shipping vs. natural resources and recreation
- Historic conflict between commercial and recreational fin fishing interests
- Recreation boat sewage impacts on water quality
- Growth & development on environmental quality



Anticipated Future Uses



- LNG facilities
- Proposed designation of a federal dredge material disposal site in Block Island Sound (RI)
- Dredge material disposal in Buzzards Bay
- Wind energy
- Expanded ferry opportunities
- Expanded cruise ship opportunities



Management Approaches



- Prohibition by Congress of all commercial fishing in Buzzards Bay by nets, seines, and fish traps. (1890's)
- Federal No Discharge Area designation
- Differing state pilotage requirements on-board foreign flagged vessels only transiting Buzzards Bay
- State regs for the use of nets for commercial fishing in inshore waters
- Ocean Sanctuaries Act
- Water-sheet zoning